

California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, December 21, 2021
9:00 AM PST

Day 1 (Tuesday): A storm system will begin moving into Northern California today, starting to bring rain, mountain snow, and gusty winds. More significant impacts will arrive mid-to-late week.

National Weather Service

*Western Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Salt Lake City, UT*



WEATHER KEY POINTS

12/21/21 - 12/27/21

Tuesday - Monday

- A very active weather pattern will be moving inland into California through Tuesday, and will persist through at least the weekend.
- Snow levels will range between 3000 feet and 4500 feet across northern California, except lower for the Trinity Alps, on Tuesday. By Wednesday, snow levels will rise to around 4500-6500 feet in the Sierra, then decrease again Thursday into Friday.
- Forecast rainfall amounts through Sunday morning:
 - 1 to 4 inches across the northern California valleys
 - 3 to 7 inches for the Sierra foothills, coastal northern California and most Bay Area Mountains
 - 6 to 9+ inches (water equivalent including snow) over the Sierra mountains
 - 0.5 inch to 1.25 inches in the San Joaquin Valley
 - 1 to 2 inches for Southern California, except for the Eastern Desert where less than 0.25 inch is expected
- Several feet of mountain snow are forecast above 7000 feet across the Sierra, with significant impact to mountain travel expected through late week. Elevations down to 5000 feet will also see significant snowfall accumulations, but the rain/snow line will fluctuate during the event.
- For the San Joaquin and Southern California, the heaviest accumulations of rain and snow will occur Thursday and Friday.
 - There is low confidence on timing and amounts for Southern California at this time, but this event could be a moderate impact rain event, with snow at higher elevations.
 - An impact to the Grapevine is not anticipated at this time.
 - Moderate to brief heavy rain could create flooding and minor debris flows across Southern California Thursday through Saturday.
- Snow may affect lower elevation passes down to 2000 feet on Christmas Eve and Day across far northern California, and may fall below 1000 feet on Sunday.



CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

12/21/21 - 12/27/21

<u>Hazards / Day</u>	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds			Southern	Southern	Southern	Southern	
Snow	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland	All Regions	All Regions	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland
Coastal Flooding							
River Flooding							
Thunderstorms (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes)		Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland				
Fire Weather (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms)							
Heat Risk							
Heavy Rain/Flash Flooding/ Debris Flow	Coastal/ Inland	All Regions	All Regions	All Regions	All Regions	Coastal/ Inland	Coastal/ Inland
Cold							



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



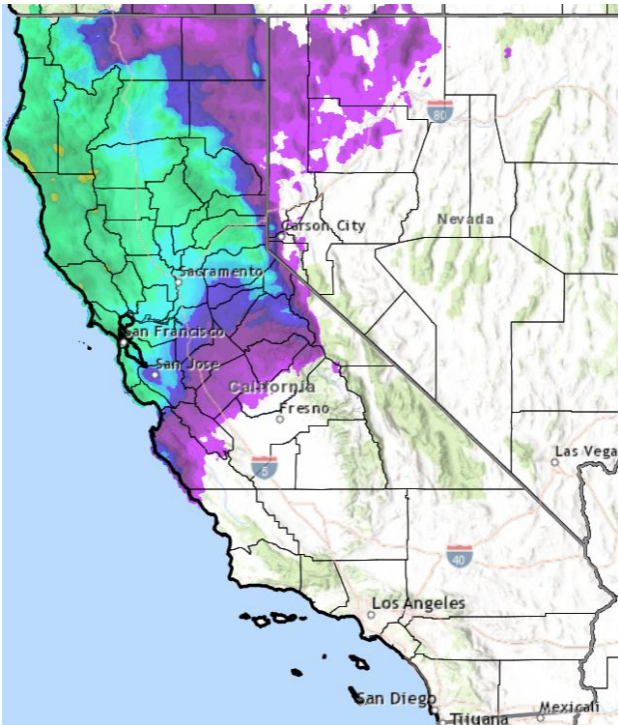
Moderate Impacts



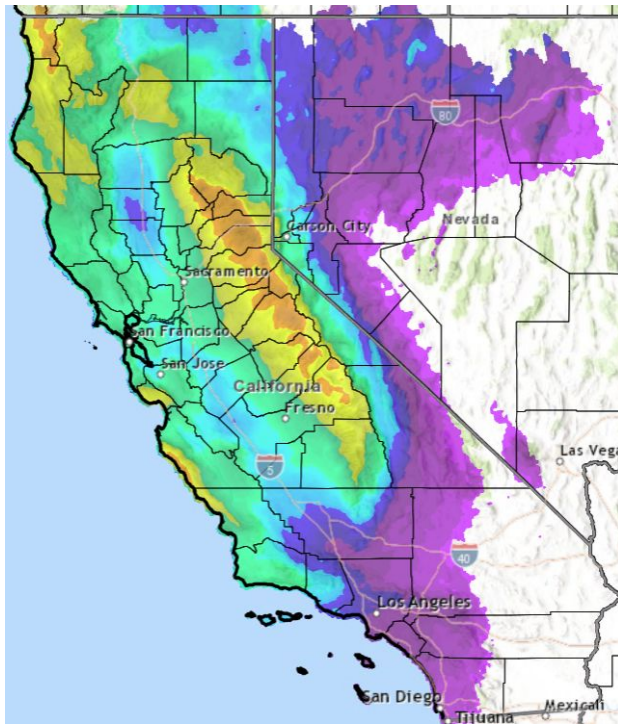
Severe Impacts

PRECIPITATION FORECAST

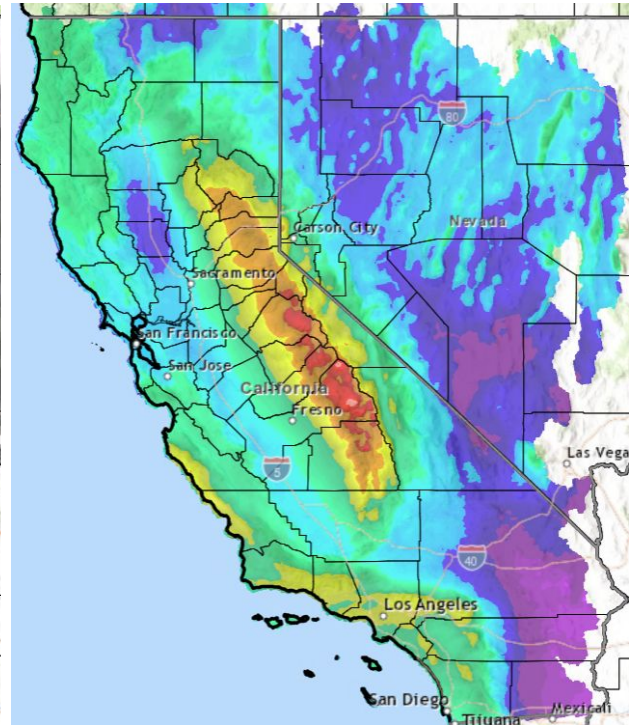
12/21/21 - 12/23/21



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday

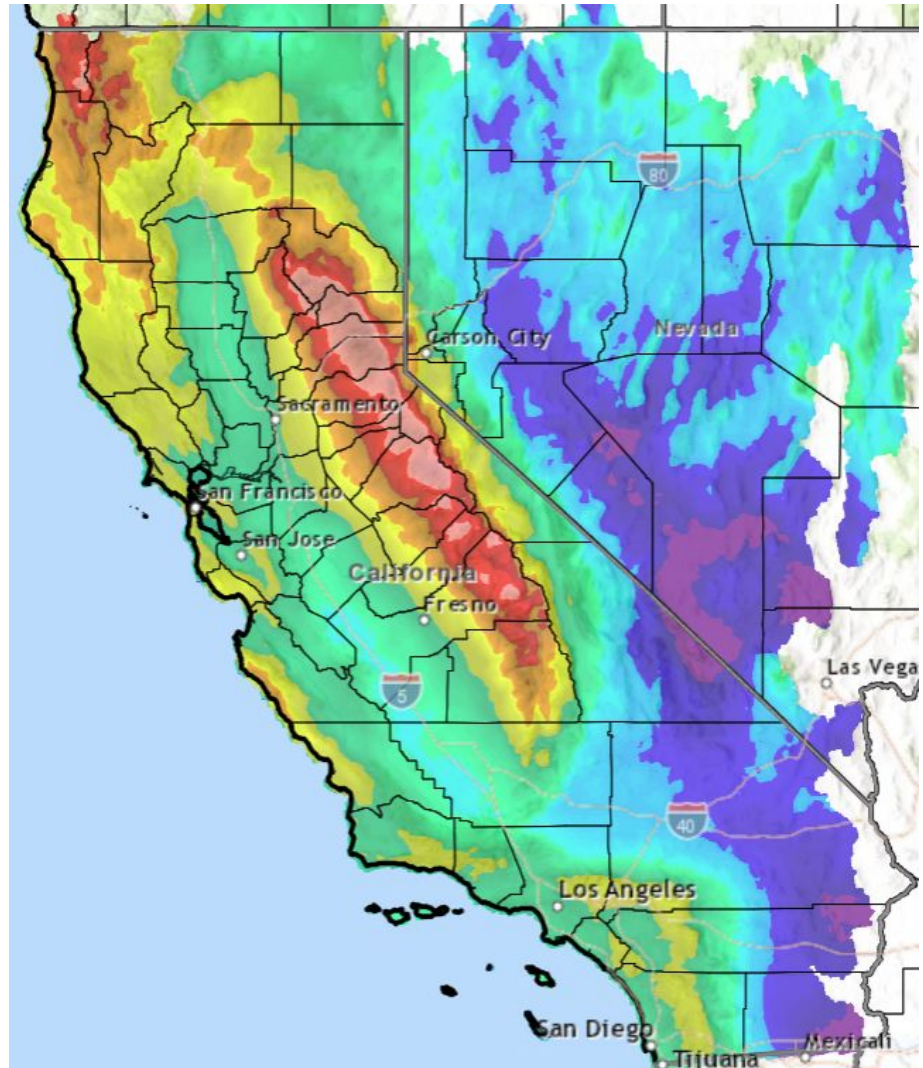
Note: Forecast precipitation amounts are an average for any particular location. Thunderstorms may produce locally higher rainfall amounts.

Precipitation (inches)



6 DAY PRECIPITATION FORECAST

4 AM 12/21/21 - 4 AM 12/27/21



Precipitation (inches)



WEATHER OUTLOOK

12/26/21 - 01/03/22

6-10 Day Outlook (December 26 – December 30)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures are favored statewide

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation is favored statewide

8-14 Day Outlook (December 28 – January 3)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures are favored statewide, especially across northern California

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation is slightly favored statewide, except for along the central and northern California coast, where normal precipitation is favored



Information provided by:

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